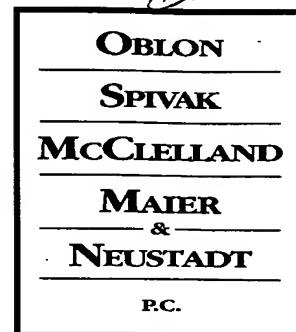




Docket No.: 246229US26

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

STEVEN P. WEIHOUGH
(703) 413-3000
SWEIHOUGH@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/724,837
Applicants: Katsuhisa SUZUKI, et al.
Filing Date: December 2, 2003
For: METHOD OF ANALYZING PROKARYOTIC GENE
EXPRESSION
Group Art Unit: 1641

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

First Office Action Status Request (in duplicate)

Our check in the amount of \$0 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Steven P. Weihrouh
Registration No. 32,829

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Daniel R. Evans, Ph.D.
Registration No. 55,868

DOCKET NO.: 246229US26/sta



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Katsuhisa SUZUKI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/724,837

GROUP NO: 1641

FILED: December 2, 2003

FOR: METHOD OF ANALYZING PROKARYOTIC GENE EXPRESSION

FIRST OFFICE ACTION STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Steven P. Weihrouch
Registration No. 32,829

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 10/04)

Daniel R. Evans, Ph.D.
Registration No. 55,868